cifically attach these flies. The viral infections renders the flies sterile thereby exerting a check on their propagation.

(b) No similar R&D work has yet been taken up in hand in the country.

गंगा नदी की नौवहन क्षमता

3455. **श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव :** क्या जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गंगा को नौवहन योग्य नदी बनाने की योजना के संबंध में अभी तक क्या प्रगति हुई है और उन स्थानों के नाम क्या हैं जहां स्टीमर की सेवा प्रारम्भ कर दी गई है ; और

(ख) गंगा में कार कम्पनी द्वारा नौवहन सेवा को कब से समाप्त किया गया है और उसके स्थान पर कोई वैकल्पिक व्यवस्था न किए जाने के क्या कारण हैं ?

जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री राजेश पायलट) : (क) और (ख) छठे दशक में प्रारंभ तक संयुक्त स्टीमर कंपनी गंगा में नदी सेवाएं चलाती थी. किन्तु उसने प्रचालनों के अव्यवहारिक होने के कारण अपने प्रचालन बन्द कर दिए और कंपनी दिवालिया हो गई । इस समय गंगा भगीरथी हुगली नदी प्रणाली पटना और हल्दिया के बीच नौगम्य है । केन्द्रीय अन्तर्देशीय जल परिवहन निगम लिमिटेड द्वारा हल्दिया कलकत्ता और फरक्का तथा पटना के बीच नियमित कार्गो सेवा प्रचलित की जा रही है । पटना और इलाहाबाद के बीच नौगम्यता स्थापित करने की एक पायलट परियोजना शुरू की जा रही है ।

Appointment of Research Assistants in Ayurvedic system of Medicine

3456. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Research Assistants were initially appointed to work for the preparation of Ayurveda pharmacopica which comes under system of clinical duties and they have been appointed to the job of Research Assistants (Ayurvedic System of Medicine) and they have been debarred from the Non Practice Allowance and if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government propose to sortout these anomalies; if so, the details therefore; and

(c) whether non-clinical term is also applicable for 'Medical Degree Holder' as in the case of MBBS graduates, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) There are posts of Research Assistants (Ayurveda) in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for Ayurvedic Pharmacopica Committee. The work of Research Assistants is non-clinical in nature. Therefore, no Non Practice Allowance was attached to these posts.

(c) So far Non Practicing Allowance was allowed for technical posts of Indian Systems of Medicine assigned with clinical duties. A medical degree holder working against posts with non-clinical duties was not granted Non Practice Allowance.

The Fourth Pay Commission has recomended that "payment of N.P.A. may be extended to all other medical officers for whom a degree in medical science is prescribed as an essential qualification". Government have not taken a final view in this regard.

Material purchased for Railway wagon repair workshops in Madhya Pradesh

3457. SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that most of the material required for various Railway wagon repair workshops in